



"The Trinity"

GOD THE THREE-IN-ONE

Read the following passages and think about the comments carefully.

1. **Genesis 1:26** - God says, "Let us make man in our image." God obviously was not talking to the angels He had created because man is not made in the image of angels. Someone was with God at creation who was the very image of God and in whose image we are created. This use of the plural idea of God shows us how incredibly accurate the Bible is. As you complete the study, we believe you will discover this fact to be true.
2. **Genesis 3:22-24** - What else did the man and woman acquire in the Garden of Eden? Sadly, when man first sinned, he left the state of innocence that he had been blessed with at creation. When man first disobeyed God he discovered good and evil and yet unlike God, man did not desire to live only for good.
3. **Isaiah 48:12-16** - God is speaking through Isaiah the prophet and telling how He is the first and last, the Creator of all life, the same title used for both the Father God and Jesus, the Son of God.
4. **Revelation 1:17-18** - Jesus has John tells us that He, Jesus is the First and Last. This meant that He has always existed. How does that agree with the creation account in Genesis 1:26?
5. **Hebrews 1:1-14** and **John 1:13** – What do both passages tell us about the creation of the universe? Are Jesus and the Father one with the Holy Spirit?
6. **Matthew 28:19** - Jesus commissioned us to go to all nations, ethnic groups, and make disciples, which meant students, of them and to baptize them. Baptism is to be done in whose names? Notice that all three names together carry the authority of God to become His disciples and receive the grace of God's salvation.
7. **2 Corinthians 13:14** - Paul concludes His letter to the Christians at the church in Corinth by wishing them the ministry of Jesus' grace, the ministry of the love of God, and the ministry of the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. If God has revealed each of these ministries from His distinct personalities, how can we believe that God is not a Trinity?

8. **Ephesians 4:4-6** - The Bible tells us there is **one body**, which is the Church made up of all true believers in Christ, and **one Spirit**, who is the Holy Spirit of God, which calls us to one hope. It goes on to say there is **one** _____, **one** _____ and **one** _____. Then God goes on to say there is _____ **God and Father**, Who is over all and through all and in all. Why would God record these variables unless He is trying to help us see that He is unique and different than man? We are the image of God but we are not God.
9. **Jude 20-21** - Pray in the _____, Keep yourselves in _____ love, and wait for the mercy of _____.
10. **1 Peter 1:1-2** – What different works of God are shown?

GOD THE FATHER

1. **Matthew 3:16-17** - What relationship does God the Father declare exists between Him and Jesus?
2. **Matthew 6:26-33** –According to Jesus what role does God the Father fulfill in our lives?
3. **John 3:12-21** - What did God the Father do to prove how great His love is for His creation?
4. **Romans 2:5-16** - God is a loving God, but His love will also cause Him to bring about the end of all that is evil in this world. Notice that the Father will judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

GOD THE SON

1. **John 1:1-2** -Who was the Word and where did He come from?
2. **John 1:3-13** - What did the Word **do**? Notice the Word is now called, 'him,' which would mean the Word is a title for a person, otherwise, the writer would have used the word, 'it.' Also notice the writer has capitalized the Word which would mean it is a proper noun used as a title.
3. **John 1:14-18** - What else did the Word **do** and who was He? Notice that the Word is identified as Jesus Christ and in verse 18. He is called 'God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side.'
4. **John 14:5-7** - Jesus is identified as the only path to knowing God the Father and His truth and life. Jesus is the only way to come into the presence of the Almighty God.

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. **Matthew 1:18** - How did Mary come to be with child?

2. **Isaiah 7:14** - The Bible teaches that Joseph was not the biological father of Jesus. The Holy Spirit of God miraculously implanted the seed of Jesus within Mary. This was a fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah about the sign from God of His Messiah or Savior. Isaiah says the sign will be a child that will literally be Immanuel which means, 'God with us.'
3. **Matthew 3:13-16** - Who descended upon Jesus?
4. **Acts 5:1-3** - To whom did Ananias' lie?
5. **Acts 5:4** - Peter says Ananias has lied to the Holy Spirit and then says he was not lying to men, he was in fact lying to God. This means that Peter is calling the Holy Spirit one with God, the same way John says in John 1:1 that Jesus was one with God.
6. **Romans 8:9** - Notice the Holy Spirit of God who lives in us is called the Spirit of Christ. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are all of the same nature and spirit.
7. **1 Corinthians 12:3** - Who alone can inspire sincere belief?
8. **1 Corinthians 12:11** - The Holy Spirit determines the gifts each person should have in order to build up and empower the church. Notice that the Holy Spirit is referred to as 'He.' He is a person, the third person of the Holy Trinity.

The doctrine of the Holy Trinity, or the One God who is three distinct individuals, is hard for our minds to comprehend. It is plainly taught in the scriptures as you can see. Therefore, we are to believe it with all our hearts, knowing that we only understand a little, but one day God will reveal it completely. This may seem hard at first, but if we could really understand the entire mind and complexity of God, we would not have much of a God at all. If we were that intelligent, we could create life. Yet we are not even able to sustain our own without His help.

I once heard an example that I believe is a helpful for us to better understand the Trinity. Water is simply a compound of 2 parts hydrogen and 1 part oxygen. Yet, it can be water within any of three forms. It is either a liquid, or vapor in the form of steam, or when frozen it takes on the form of ice, yet it is still very much water in any of its three forms. It is still 2 parts hydrogen and 1 part oxygen. God is very much God in the flesh and person of Jesus Christ. He is equally God in the Holy Spirit that indwells us and equips us, and He is equally God in the person of our Heavenly Father and provider.

Although we may not fully understand, we can rest assured that the God who created the universe loved us so much that He sent His Son to show us the way while laying down His life for our sins. He fills us with His presence today. Jesus has given us all we need to know to find life that is eternal.